

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 14957 081923Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 TRSE-00 ITC-01 STR-04

FRB-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /057 W

-----017916 090151Z /73

R 081419Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9205

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USDOC WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 14957

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: BEXP, EG

SUBJ: REPORTED BAN ON CARBONATED BEVERAGE IMPORTS

REF CAIRO 9726,

1. ACCORDING TO RECENT CAIRO PRESS REPORT, GOE HAS DECIDED TO BAN IMPORTS OF CARBONATED BEVERAGES. PRESS REPORTS THAT MIN OF TRADE HAS DECIDED THAT CARBONATED DRINKS ARE UN-NECESSARY LUXURY ITEMS AND THAT LOCAL PRODUCTION OF SUCH DRINKS IS SUFFICIENT TO MAKE IMPORTS UNNECESSARY. (COMMENT: WHILE LOCAL PRODUCTION MAY BE SUFFICIENT, IT IS NOT CONSIDERED VERY SANITARY).

2. MINTRADE SOURCES HAVE INDICATED THAT DECISION TO BAN SOFT DRINK IMPORTS HAS IN FACT BEEN TAKEN. PERSONS PRESENTLY HOLDING IMPORT LICENSES WILL BE ALLOWED USE THEM, BUT NEW LICENSES WILL NOT BE ISSUED. (IMPORT LICENSES ARE RESTRICTED TO SPECIFIC QUANTITY.) EXCEPTION TO BAN HAS BEEN MADE FOR HOTELS AND TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS. AS IS OFTEN THE CASE WITH COMMERCIAL REGS, ORDER TO BAN SOFT DRINK IMPORTS, MIN TRADE SOURCES TELL US, HAS BEEN PUT INTO EFFECT THROUGH AN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTERNATIONAL MINISTERIAL INSTRUCTION, RATHER THAN A FORMAL, NUMBERED AND PUBLISHED DECREE.

3. COMMENT: REFTEL REPORTED GOE MOVES TO RESTRICT IMPORTS OF SOFT DRINKS TO PUBLIC SECTOR AND TO IMPOSE DUTIES ON THEM. OUTRIGHT BAN ON IMPORTS IS OBVIOUSLY MUCH MORE SERIOUS STEP, POTENTIALLY OF CONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE. SINCE GOE LIBER-

ALIZED TRADE REGS IN 1974 AND ESTABLISHED "OWN-EXCHANGE"  
IMPORT SYSTEM, IT HAS NOT, SO FAR AS WE AWARE, CUT OFF ACCESS  
TO ANY COMMODITY ON BASIS OF ITS "LUXURY" CHARACTER, THIS  
DESPITE FRQUENT CRITICISM BY SOME THAT COUNTRY WAS BEING  
FLOODED BY FOREIGN CONSUMER GOODS.

4. IMPORTED SOFT DRINKS ARE AVAILABLE AT NEARLY EVERY RETAIL  
GROCER IN CAIRO. AS A RESULT THEY HAVE BEEN A SYMBOL OF A  
RETURN OF IMPORTED CONSUMER GOODS TO A MARKET STRAVED FOR SUCH  
GOODS FOR OVER 10 YEARS. DECISION TO BAN THEM MAY BE ONLY SYM-  
BPOLIC MOVE TO SHOW GOE CONCERN ABOUT PROLIFERATION OF "NON-  
PRODUCTIVE" IMPORTS; IT SHOULD BE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE  
PRINCIPLE INVOLVED IS CLEARLY CAPABLE OF MUCH BROADER  
APPLICATION IF GOE DECIDES MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION.  
EILTS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977CAIRO14957  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Message ID:** 6c78aa4a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** 77 CAIRO 9726  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REPORTED BAN ON CARBONATED BEVERAGE IMPORTS  
**TAGS:** BEXP, EG  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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